

1894 heartily maintained by a Religious denomination, is assisted by Congressional appropriation. There have been appropriated by Congress for the current year, one million and twenty five thousand dollars for the education of Indian children. A very large portion of this sum is given to Religious denominations, who have control of many of the schools; \$16.00 per annum being paid for each Indian child so taught. A very large share of the amount given to the churches on this account is received by Roman Catholics. This fact has caused considerable feeling on the part of the Protestant denominations, and the result is likely to be a withdrawal of all Government aid from all denominational schools.

There is a growing sentiment in favor of the education of Indian children in the regular district or public schools along with white children. To this method we have given our hearty support, feeling certain that it is equally to the advantage of the Indian child and no disadvantage to the white child to be associated in school together.

The subject of education is, of course, the most important that arises in considering the Indian problem. And in this connection it may be stated that a desire has manifested itself during the past year among those of our members who take especial interest in the welfare of the Indians; that, as a Society, we should look forward to more active measures in the education of Indian children. This desire has led to considerable thought upon the subject, and practically of establishing a school under the auspices of our Society, is regarded by some as not unreasonable. It is argued that a union of the seven Yearly Meetings in an effort to bring to bear in the education of Indian children the principles and testimonies that distinguish us as a religious body, would meet the warm approval of our members generally and to which they would respond in time with the necessary financial aid.

Realizing that to approach our Friends now with a proposition involving a considerable expenditure of money would be inopportune, the thought of the Committee is to do nothing more at present than to call the attention of Friends to the subject, asking that it may receive their earnest consideration, with the hope that ultimately we may find ourselves not only willing but able, to carry this most desirable project into effect.

We are helping Louise H. Douglass, Field Station, in prosecuting

1894 her work among the Poncas and have encouraging reports from her. She is endeavoring to establish a District School at the Agency, to which the Ponca children can go, and we have promised to assist her by adding a small amount to the salary allowed the Teacher by the country. We are also aiding her in completing the education of the Indian girl, Polly Clement, at the Moody School, in Northfield, Mass.

Such supplies as Miss Douglass needs in her work in the way of dry goods, medicines and delicacies for the sick, are forwarded to her at regular intervals. The salary of this faithful worker was reduced this year in a general scaling of salaries ordered by the Department, but at our request it was put back to the original amount; the Commissioners admitting that the reduction in her case was unjust.

Report of the Committee on Indian Affairs. The Indiana Yearly Meeting has expressed a concern relative to the long delayed payment of the claim of New York against the Government, and has appointed a Committee to co-operate with us in their behalf. We have been in correspondence with Guion Miller, of Washington City, the Legal Agent of New York Indians in prosecuting this claim, and we believe he is doing all that can be done to hasten a settlement. But we are more than willing, to assist these greatly wronged Indians if we can, to obtain this money from the Government, for we believe it is a just demand, and will be so decided by the United States Court of Claims.

A determined effort was made at the last session of Congress to accomplish some very unwise and mischievous legislation; notably omitting the appropriation for the expenses of the Board of Indian Commissioners, reducing the salary of the Superintendent of Indian Schools, also of a number of the Indian Agents. By a united effort on the part of the Friends of the Indian, in which we cordially joined, all of this vicious legislation was prevented.

We are pleased to state, that in our recent interviews with the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Hon. H. M. Browning, it was evident that the cordial and very friendly relations we have always had with the Indian Department were fully maintained. At our solicitation he estimated for a larger appropriation